12. Rs. 1,204 under '20—Education—4. Secondary girls—Grant-in-aid'.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—Sir, for a similar reason under a different sub head I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1204 under "20—Education—4. Secondary Girls—Grant-in-aid". I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the grant.

Demand was put and carried.

13. Rs. 18,471 under '20—Education—5. Primary boys—Grant-in-aid'.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 18471 under "20—Education—5. Primary Boys—Grant-in-aid". The reason for this additional allotment is the same as was explained in the case of item number 1. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the additional allotment.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Adur).*—This 18471 is demanded for grant-in-aid to Primary Boys. It is difficult to understand how such a large amount was not anticipated at the time of the framing of the budget. Are there very many new schools?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—There are two ways, either we may budget for a very narrow margin or for a very large surplus. It has been the habit of Government to see as far as possible that the amounts budgetted are for the bare minimum. The Hon'ble Member wanted to know whether new schools had been started. Under the rules, grants are a matter of grace and Government are not compelled to give grants unless they have sufficient funds. Every year the claims of new classes are very carefully scrutinised and it is open to the Government to say that for want of sufficient money, it is not possible for them to give any aid to the classes started last year. But it is not possible to find in advance what will be the precise number of such cases and whether they can reasonably grant or refuse to give aid. This is the result partly of actual strength exceeding our anticipations and partly due to what I can only call the liberal way of aiding primary education.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi).*—Is it the Hon'ble Member's contention that with reasonable foresight these could not be anticipated?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—That obviously is impossible with the funds at our disposal. We have to pick and choose and give immediate relief to those that most deserve.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi).*—I say that this pick and choose might be done at the time of the Karkidagam budget session. The budget equilibrium is being disturbed by these additional allotments.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—These figures are collected by about the end of Meenam.

Mr. President.—Why can't you decide the amount at the time of the budget and pick and choose afterwards?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—There is another difficulty. The actual strength of the classes is known to the Department only after the admissions are over and then some of our calculations are upset. Unless we say we won't open new classes, which I think will be very hard, we cannot get out of the situation. This is a public service which has to be looked upon as most elastic. It has to be most elastic if it is to cater efficiently to the needs of the public.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar *(Trichur North).*—What I want to know is whether the grants in aid vary from time to time?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—If the strength falls below a certain standard a proportionate cut is made.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar *(Trichur North).*—It does not exceed.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction.)*—It is not possible to find what new divisions and classes will have to be opened.

Mr. President.—It is one of those matters which is engaging the attention of Government. I think the Hon'ble Member has stated the difficulties in the Education budget. The real point is not that we are unable to devise a method by which supplementary demands can be avoided. The real point

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

is that the demands for grants in aid for additional classes are growing every year but the funds at the disposal of Government are very limited. This is a very serious matter which engages the attention of Government. It was brought to the notice of Government that as a result of the policy followed all these years, a number of schools have been opened on the bonafide faith that grants will be given and therefore we are morally bound to give. Now we have made it perfectly clear that Government will exercise their discretion and what the Government will do in future is to forecast in advance that so much money only will be given for additional classes for next year and permission will be given only to such number of classes as will be covered by the amount that is available. That is the simple way of doing it. We are unable to meet the growing demands for additional classes. That is the real position.

Mr. P. J. Alexander (*Palliviruthy*).—Does not that mean that all the classes opened will be aided by the Government? What is the harm in opening classes without grant being given?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—Now as a matter of fact classes that have been in existence for, one educational year, do find a place in the list of aided schools. This has been the practice existing. 25 years ago, classes used to be aided from the day they were started. Unless we stop this question of automatically aiding classes additional allotments will have to be moved and passed.

Mr. P. J. Alexander (*Palliviruthy*).—The system of automatic aid is stopped already. What I want to know from the Diwan President is this. Are we to understand that only such classes should be opened as may be aided with the funds available?

Mr. President.—If you want to open a class without aid from Government there is no objection at all. That system may continue but you should not expect any grant.

Demand was put and carried.

14. Rs. 1,335 under '20—Education—6. Primary Girls—grant-in-aid'.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1335 - under "20—Education—6—Primary girls—Grant-in-aid". I request that the House will be pleased to grant this.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly